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A Comprehensive Development Plan For Hendrix College

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A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR HENDRIX COLLEGE

THE plan of the Board of Trustees for new buildings and improvements on the Hendrix campus is here given for the information of friends of the College. The bird's-eye view found on pages four and five presents the general building and development scheme prepared by Grant C. Miller of Chicago. Mr. Miller has had large experience as a college architect, having prepared building plans for many of the most important colleges and universities of the Central West. Instead of being located by haphazard, the buildings will be grouped with reference to symmetry and architectural beauty, with drives, walks and trees located according to plan. A campus thus arranged is far more convenient and attractive than the same campus and improvements without a plan. Some institutions, conscious of the need of a plan, have torn down thousands of dollars' worth of buildings in order to correct the mistakes of the past. The Hendrix board does not propose to make such a mistake.

Need of Buildings Imperative

While Hendrix College has taken high rank among the colleges of the South, its needs were never so pressing as they are now. The Church and friends of the College could not make a greater mistake than to assume that because of the endowment, the College has no further needs. The whole energy of the College was expended for years in an effort to accumulate a small endowment. This was necessary for mere existence. Now that this basic need has been in part met, the board is turning attention to physical improvements, a need only less imperative than endowment.

No building except the heating plant has been erected on the Hendrix campus in about a quarter of a century. The College has long since outgrown its buildings ,and what it has are in need of repair. The phenomenal growth of high schools and universities have forced upon the small college the issue of existence. While Hendrix has more invested in buildings and equipments than any other college in the State, yet Fort Smith and Little Rock, for instance, have each erected high school buildings costing over twice as much as all of the buildings of Hendrix College put together. Let the Church and the friends of the College

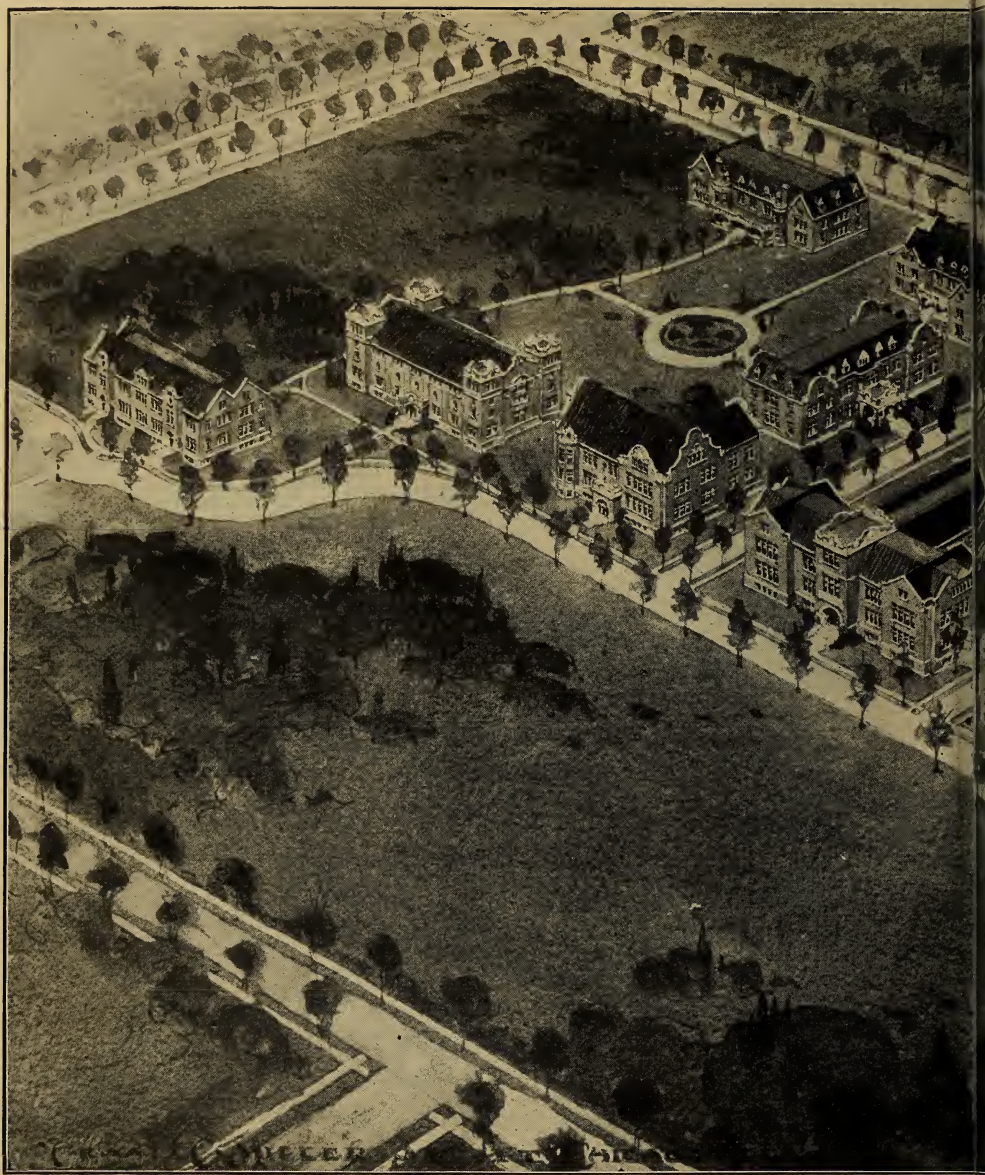
know *that Hendrix was better equipped, in point of buildings, laboratories and library, twenty years ago for the conditions in Arkansas at that time, than she is now for the conditions of today.*

New Buildings Required Now

Dormitory.—The dormitories are so shabby that it is surprising that the boys endure them. But even if they were perfect, they do not furnish half room enough. The College is facing a physical problem. It simply cannot house its students. The dormitories were full four weeks before the opening last September (1913), and the College was compelled to bring into requisition every cottage and house on or near the campus. The dining hall is inadequate. It cannot accommodate at one sitting the students who take meals there, notwithstanding a large per cent of the students board in town. The College must erect a dormitory at once, or suffer serious loss.

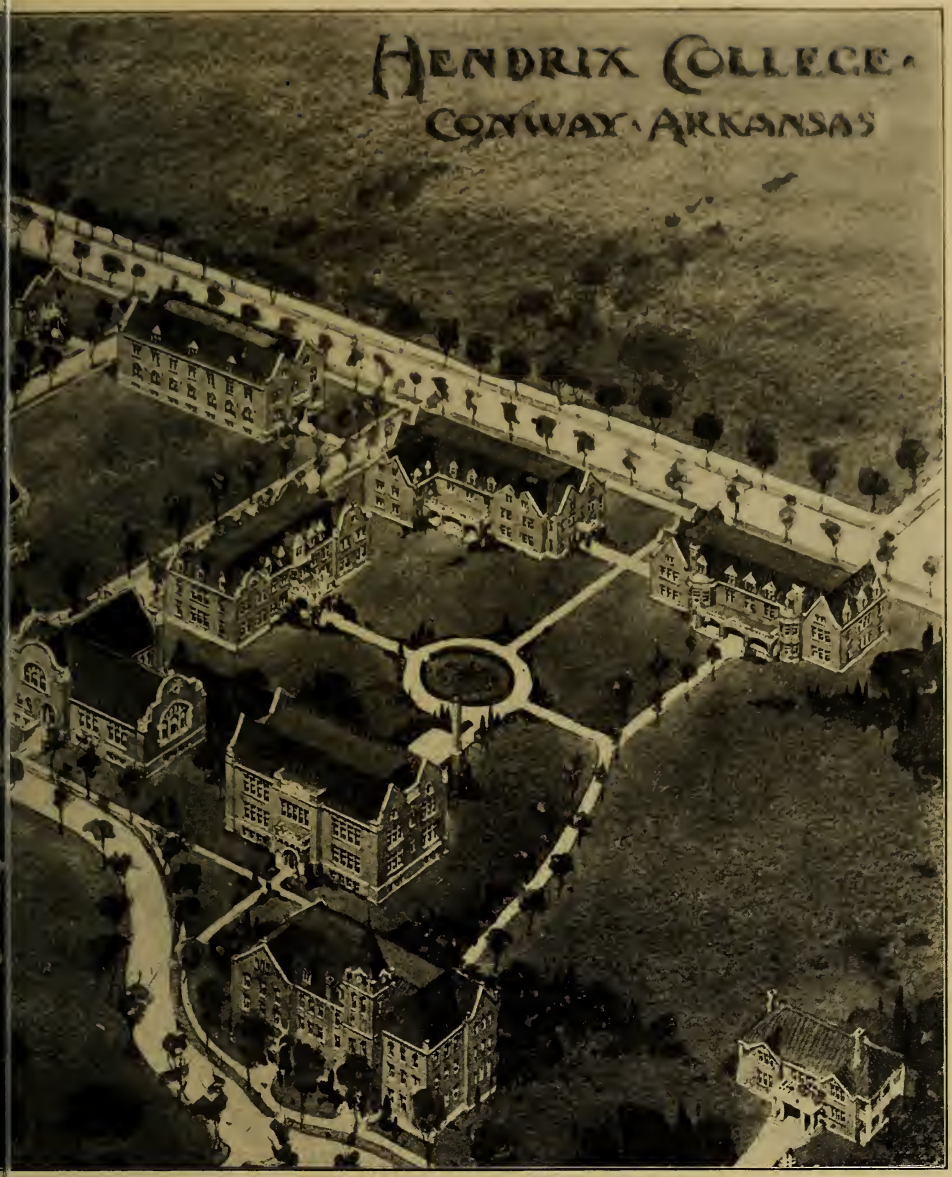
Science Hall.—The need of a science hall is no less imperative. Every inch of space in College Hall, the main building, is occupied, and the authorities are powerless to provide absolutely necessary recitation and laboratory room. Into this one building are crowded all class work, all laboratories, the library, stack room, museum, chapel, Y. M. C. A., literary societies, and administrative offices. The laboratories occupy about one-third of the building. Some relief must be provided. The increase in attendance has multiplied classes, yet there is no place to put them. The tide now running strong in favor of Hendrix will recede if these buildings are not provided.

Gymnasium.—The physical and moral welfare of the student requires a gymnasium. There is not another college of the class to which Hendrix belongs in the South that does not have a gymnasium. Almost every student has some physical weakness, which wisely directed exercises would overcome and develop the student into a strong man or woman. Often mental and moral weaknesses have their source in physical defects. The College, therefore, is under the most sacred obligation to the choice young people of the country to provide an experienced physical director with a thorough knowledge of the human body, who will examine and test every student upon entrance and at intervals thereafter, and prescribe exercises that will properly develop his body. The value of such service to the future leaders of the country is inestimable. But this work cannot be done without a gym-



BUILDING PLAN OF HENDRI

The general development scheme for Hendrix worked out by Grant C. Miller of Cra College into two groups—the academic group and the domestic group. The seven larg and are disposed along the crest of the ridge which runs north and south. The seven bldi is kept free of buildings so as to secure for the College a commanding position viewed fm the group is the president's house, located near the south or main entrance to the camp main building, Science Hall, Library, Administration Building, Physics, Gymnasium, ar east end of the central quadrangle, and the three buildings shown on either side of th is the present heating plant. Tabor Hall, the dormitories and the cottages now on th Building will occupy the present site of Tabor Hall. Of these buildings the Board pr The alumni and ex-students are erecting (January, 1914) the home for the President



COLLEGE—BIRDSEYE VIEW

ago, the official landscape architect of the College, divides the future buildings of the buildings in the front of the picture make up the academic group. They face west dings in the rear belong to the domestic group. The front or west half of the campus n the railroad and approaches from the town. The building at the extreme right of and the other buildings in the front, facing west, named in order, are the present Engineering Hall. In the domestic group the central dining hall is at the rear or the quadrangle are dormitories. The small building just at the back of Science Hall ampus are not shown, as they are not regarded as permanent. The Administration es to erect as early as funds are available a dormitory, science hall and gymnasium.

nasium. The same building could house the Y. M. C. A. and be the general social and religious center for the students.

President's House.—A house for the President is a necessity to the College. Distinguished men and women are frequently guests of the College. Not only are they entitled to proper hospitaliy, but the manner in which they are entertained goes far toward giving the College its reputation. The President must be prepared to entertain groups of people to whom he is socially and officially related, including faculty and students. There being no adequate building on or near the campus, the board decided to include this house in its building program.

Other Buildings.—In the course of time, the College will require separate buildings for the library, dining hall, chemistry, physics, auditorium and additional dormitories. But to meet the present needs the four buildings named above are required.

Repairs and Improvements.—The poverty of the College has caused the neglect of the buildings now on the campus. They are in need of repair. Considerable money will be required for a sewer system, for walks, drives, and trees, called for by the architect's plans, and for enlarging the heating plant.

Income.—The income of the College is inadequate to meet even present requirements, notwithstanding the most rigid economy. But the demands are increasing. The growth in the number of students (thirty-five per cent in one year) will require a larger teaching force, while the maintenance of additional buildings will necessitate an increased expenditure. Hence the endowment must be increased.

Plans of the Board to Meet Immediate Needs

It was the situation here outlined which the board faced last June and which caused that body to decide to take steps at an early date to raise funds with which to provide four buildings and other improvements to cost about $150,000 and to increase the endowment to a half million dollars. The buildings and improvements contemplated are as follows: Dormitory, $40,000; Science Hall, $50,000; Gymnasium, $25,000; President's Home, $15,000; repairs, heating plant, sewer system and campus improvements, $20,000. To increase the endowment to half a million will require at least $200,000. The plans of the board call for a total of about

$350,000. These needs are fundamental, and are required in order to put the College in position to discharge its duties to the public.

Mission of Hendrix

The distinctive mission of Hendrix College is to train and develop for church and state intellectual and spiritual leaders—statesmen, prophets, poets, clergymen, educators, business and professional men of large mold, men and women of vision. To the Church Hendrix is indispensable. It furnishes her leaders, raises her standards and educates her ministry. Without Hendrix the Church would lose her proud place among the vital Christian forces of Arkansas. Hendrix graduates are already among the leading ministers, educators, lawyers and doctors of the State. Of the nine clerical delegates from the three conferences of Arkansas to the General Conference of 1914, seven are Hendrix men.

Hendrix a Permanent Institution

Cardinal Wolsey founded and endowed Christ Church College at Oxford in the sixteenth century. Could he have made a wiser investment? It has been declaring dividends every year for about 400 years in the form of the Christian character and the disciplined minds of the choice spirits of the British race, such as John and Charles Wesley, and scores of cabinet officers, jurists, viceroys, poets, preachers and historians. Hendrix offers just such a field for investment. The General Education Board of New York, composed of big business men charged with the administration of a great trust in such manner as to produce the largest educational results, *after making a critical examination of the situation in Arkansas decided that Hendrix offered such a promising field for investment that it put $75,000 into the College,* the largest single gift (and the only one by said Board), ever made to an Arkansas institution. *This judgment by a competent disinterested outside authority, that Hendrix is a rich and safe field for investment, is important, when it is remembered that becaus we project too many, over four-fifths of all colleges die for lack of support. It is highly important for the guidance of a man proposing to invest in a college that he should have such an impartial judgment. Hendrix has, therefore, already proven to disinterested minds that it has the elements of permanent success.*

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It is not a fresh water college. Therefore money invested in it will be here thousands of years hence yielding interest in the form of trained Christian men and women.

Why Hendrix is a Promising Field For Investment

Some facts which make Hendrix a fruitful field for investment are:

a. It is the only endowed college in Arkansas. This makes it permanent.

b. It has a large and loyal constituency, the Methodists of the entire State.

c. It has back of it a great history, a record of achievements, of self-sacrifice and heroic devotion of faculty and friends. This is a rich spiritual heritage worth more than brick and mortar.

d. Its central location in one of the cleanest, most progressive towns in Arkansas gives it a commanding position in the present and future development of the State.

Individual Monuments

Hendrix, therefore, not only affords an opening for people even in poor circumstances to leave their impress upon future generations, but also offers an enviable opportunity for people of means to erect individual monuments to themselves or their families. This can be done by placing on the campus buildings named in honor of the donor, or of a deceased member of the family. Such memorial buildings are standing on almost every college campus in the United States. Who will seize this opportunity to immortalize himself and to stamp his impress on future generations by erecting a science hall, a dormitory, a gymnasium, or a library on the campus of a great college, destined to play for centuries to come a large and growing part in molding the ideals and character of the leaders of an empire State? *Hundreds of men and women, who otherwise would never have been known beyond their own community and generation, have immortalized themselves by investing in colleges. It is the most productive, as it is the most permanent form of investment.*